

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and versions, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 - 271. (canceled)

272. (currently amended) A method of identifying an agent that modulates ~~an eye~~ a retinal abnormality, the method comprising: (a) providing a transgenic mouse whose genome comprises a ~~disruption~~ knockout of the gene which encodes for the native sequence PRO224 polypeptide, said mouse comprising a retinal abnormality resulting from said PRO224 gene knockout; (b) measuring a physiological characteristic of ~~an eye~~ a retina of the transgenic mouse of (a); (c) comparing the measured physiological characteristic of (b) with that of a gender matched wild-type mouse, wherein the physiological characteristic of ~~an eye~~ a retina of the transgenic mouse that differs from the physiological characteristic a retina of the wild-type mouse is identified as ~~an eye~~ a retinal abnormality resulting from the PRO224 gene disruption knockout in the transgenic mouse; (d) administering a test agent to the transgenic mouse of (a); and (e) determining whether the test agent modulates said ~~eye~~ retinal abnormality, whereby an agent which is determined to modulate ~~an eye~~ a retinal abnormality is identified.

273. (currently amended) The method of Claim 272, wherein the ~~eye abnormality is a~~ retinal abnormality ~~comprising~~ comprises a retinal artery obstruction or occlusion.

274-279. (canceled)

280. (currently amended) The method of Claim 272, wherein the ~~eye~~ retinal abnormality is a vascular retinal abnormality.

281. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~280~~ 272, wherein the ~~eye abnormality is a~~ retinal abnormality ~~consistent with~~ causes vision problems or blindness.

282. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~280~~ 272, wherein the retinal abnormality is ~~consistent with~~ retinitis pigmentosa.

283. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~280~~ 272, wherein the retinal abnormality is characterized by retinal degeneration or retinal dysplasia.

284. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~280~~ 272, wherein the retinal abnormality

is ~~consistent with selected from~~ retinal dysplasia, ~~various retinopathies a~~ retinopathy, including retinopathy of prematurity, retrolental fibroplasia, neovascular glaucoma, age-related macular degeneration, diabetic macular edema, ~~corneal neovascularization, corneal graft neovascularization, corneal graft rejection,~~ retinal/choroidal neovascularization, neovascularization of the angle (rubeosis), ocular neovascular disease, vascular restenosis, arteriovenous malformations (AVM), meningioma, hemangioma, angiofibroma, thyroid ~~hyperplasias~~ hyperplasia, ~~(including~~ Grave's disease), ~~corneal and other tissue transplantation,~~ retinal artery obstruction or occlusion; retinal degeneration causing secondary atrophy of the retinal vasculature, retinitis pigmentosa, macular dystrophies, Stargardt's disease, congenital stationary night blindness, choroideremia, gyrate atrophy, Leber's congenital amaurosis, retinoschisis disorders, Wagner's syndrome, Usher ~~syndromes~~ syndrome, Zellweger syndrome, Saldino-Mainzer syndrome, Senior-Loken syndrome, Bardet-Biedl syndrome, Alport's syndrome, Alstrom's syndrome, Cockayne's syndrome, dysplasia spondyloepiphysaria congenita, Flynn-Aird syndrome, ~~Friedreich ataxia, Hallgren syndrome,~~ Marshall syndrome, Albers-Schnoberg disease, Refsum's disease, Kearns- Sayre syndrome, ~~Waardenburg's syndrome, Alagile syndrome,~~ myotonic dystrophy, ~~olivopontocerebellar atrophy, Pierre Marie syndrome,~~ Stickler syndrome, ~~carotinaemia, cystinosis,~~ Wolfram syndrome, Bassen-Kornzweig syndrome, abetalipoproteinemia, incontinentia pigmenti, Batten's disease, mucopolysaccharidoses, homocystinuria, ~~or~~ and mannosidosis.

285 - 290. (canceled)

291. (currently amended) The method of Claim 272, wherein the transgenic mouse exhibits ~~the following physiological characteristic~~ an increased mean artery-to-vein ratio associated with retinal degeneration, as compared with gender-matched wild-type littermates: ~~an increased mean artery-to-vein ratio associated with retinal degeneration.~~

292-386. (canceled)